greatest -- of the prevalence of mental disease since, though it occasioned neuroses, "they are many times more common in peace." Like Clarke he treats the war principally as an occasion for something else, namely mental illness, not by creating it (since it was there all along) but by exposing it. At least when he writes about it aftaerwards, for Clarke it seems less an outbreak of collective insanity than an opportunity to bring insanity to the front -- literally -- by inadvertently conscripting and bringing to the attention of the authorities so many of the insane, who had previously "found their niche in simple farm work or occupations of a routine nature" (1140);[cxxii] the war exposes them, not just to enemy fire but also to "friendly" surveillance and control. Clarke celebrates what he considers the greatest lesson of the war, that many "insane" people can become "useful hewers of wood and drawers of water." If this is true, psychiatry only "discovered," and at considerable cost to the insane themselves, what they already knew.[cxxiii] Perhaps they publicly underestimated the war to avoid the rhetorical trap of suggesting that insanity was caused by the war and the implication that therefore their movement might relent upon the cessation of hostilities. At any rate, at the risk of trivializing as well as exploiting the horrors of World War I, Salmon urges that the "mental hygiene" movement remain on a continuous "war footing" in a virtual war against insanity.

In the "Report of the Medical Director" which follows the report of Salmon's speech, Clarke describes the movement's educational activities. They first interested the Canadian Army Medical Corps in obtaining trained social workers for the neurological units, then they developed a special course for such workers at the University of Toronto, and subsequently trained "no less than thirty-two nurses from all parts of Canada" (176) for the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment. He also reports his inspection of all Western asylums where soldiers were patients (175). His insistence that the only solution for such provincial institutions was "the appointment of independent Commissions" is partly a reaction to the conditions he was allowed to observe, but also to those he was not: by this time he had been forbidden to set foot inside any Ontario Hospitals for the Insane.[cxxiv]